

INITIATIVE 673

I, Ralph Munro, Secretary of State of the State of Washington and custodian of its seal, hereby certify that, according to the records on file in my office, the attached copy of Initiative Measure No. 673 to the People is a true and correct copy as it was received by this office.

1 AN ACT Relating to health plans; and adding a new section to
2 chapter 48.43 RCW.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 48.43 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 Every health plan delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed by a
7 health carrier on and after July 1, 1998:

8 (1) May include managed care or other management or administrative
9 provisions only to assure effective and efficient delivery of health
10 care services. Such provisions must ensure that people changing health
11 plans or employment will not be required to change doctors or nurse
12 practitioners as defined in subsection (3) below. Managed care or
13 similar provisions may not discriminate against any provider or type of
14 provider included in the plan and must be written and applied on a
15 substantially fair and uniform basis among all health care providers
16 included in the plan;

17 (2) Must disclose such information about the plan as the insurance
18 commissioner provides by rule. Such information must include the
19 percentages of premium and investment income attributable to salaries
20 and administration, to profits, and to direct provision of health care
21 services, and must include any requirements or agreements between the

1 plan and providers that restrict access or referral to other providers
2 or otherwise limit the provision of health care services;

3 (3)(a) Must permit every individual doctor and nurse practitioner,
4 as defined in (b) of this subsection, to provide health services or
5 care for conditions to the extent that:

6 (I) The provision of such health services or care is within the
7 doctor's or nurse practitioner's respective scope of practice;

8 (ii) The doctor or nurse practitioner agrees to abide by standards
9 related to provision of cost-effective and clinically efficacious
10 health services and to utilization review, cost containment, and
11 efficient management procedures; and

12 (iii) The plan covers the condition or provides the service.

13 (b) For purpose of this section, the term "doctor" means doctor of
14 medicine licensed under chapter 18.71 RCW, doctor of pharmacy or
15 pharmacist licensed under chapter 18.64 RCW, doctor of psychology
16 licensed under chapter 18.83 RCW, doctor of osteopathic medicine and
17 surgery licensed under chapter 18.57 RCW, doctor of chiropractic
18 licensed under chapter 18.25 RCW, doctor of podiatric medicine and
19 surgery licensed under chapter 18.22 RCW, doctor of naturopathy
20 licensed under chapter 18.36A RCW, and doctor of optometry licensed
21 under chapter 18.53 RCW. "Nurse practitioner" means a nurse
22 practitioner licensed under chapter 18.79 RCW. This subsection (3)
23 does not apply to a health plan to the extent that it directly employs
24 doctors or nurse practitioners.

25 The insurance commissioner shall adopt rules to implement this
26 section.

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